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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/660,183	09/11/2003	Sebastien Perrot	PF020113	5791

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Joseph J. Laks
Thomson Licensing LLC
2 Independence Way, Patent Operations
PO Box 5312
PRINCETON, NJ 08543

EXAMINER	
TSEGAYE, SABA	

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2419	

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
12/30/2008	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/660,183	PERROT ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	SABA TSEGAYE	2419	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE *3* MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on *19 September 2008*.

2a)☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b)☐ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-16* is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) *1 and 3-16* is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 09/19/08. Claims 1 and 3-16 are pending. Currently no claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1 and 3-16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bender et al. (WO 00/18066) in view of Joy et al. (US 2005/0157732 A1) and The Admitted Prior Art ("APA") as disclosed in applicant's specification Fig. 1, page 1 line 12-22.

Regarding claims 1 and 15, Bender discloses a method for connecting a device (40) not having wireless communication capability to a wireless network; characterized, at the level of a bridge device (42) comprising means for interfacing with the wireless network (56) comprising and access point (58, 60) (see fig. 4), by the steps of:

detecting a connection between the device and the bridge device (page 8, lines 1-25);

determining an address (*when power initially applied to the terminal equipment unit 40 and the wireless modem 42, each of them has a* ***unique hardware address****...message (that specifies the terminal equipment units permanent hardware address) is broadcasted to the network remote server 60*) for the device and for the bridge device (page 9, lines 28-31; page 11, lines 3-5; page 10, lines 19-23);

separately registering to the access point, with the respective addresses, the device and itself as wireless devices on the wireless network (page 9, lines 7-12; page 10, lines 19-23; page 11, lines 3-7).

Bender discloses, as pointed out above, when a terminal equipment unit is first powered on, it broadcasts a message intended for the network remote server 60. The broadcast message specifies the terminal equipment unit's permanent **hardware address** to request and IP address. Furthermore, it is well known that a MAC address is a hardware address that uniquely identifies each node of a network. Bender does not expressly disclose that the hardware address is a MAC address.

Joy teaches that MAC address (Ethernet address) is unique address used on a network in order to ensure that a given packet will arrive at the correct destination (0005).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute a MAC address, such as that suggested by Joy, to the hardware address of Bender in order to ensure that a given packet will arrive at the correct destination, thereby provides a secure system.

Further, Bender does not expressly disclose wherein the registration is performed through an authentication and an association process of the type as defined by the IEEE 802.11 standard.

However, Bender discloses, on page 13, lines 19-20, that the wireless link connection may operate under one of a plurality of well known or later developed operating protocols. Further, Bender discloses that a standard IP suit system connecting the wireless modem 42 and a network unit 58 over a wireless link 56. The IP suit may be used to internetwork a diverse range of LANs and WANs (page 6, line 27-page 7 line 5).

APA discloses that it is well known for wireless network to use the IEEE 802.11 specification to allow stations on the wireless network to exchange data.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use IEEE 802.11 standard in the system of Bender in order to use a set of standard for wireless LAN to exchange data.

Regarding claim 3, Bender discloses the method further comprising the step of having the bridge device monitor traffic on the wireless network for the device (see fig. 4)

Regarding claim 4, Bender discloses the method further comprising the step of programming packet filters for packets having as destination address the address of the device, and upon detection of such a packet, acknowledging receipt of the packet in place of the device (page 12, lines 3-14).

Regarding claims 5 and 6, Bender discloses the method further comprising at least one of the following steps: forwarding all multicast packet on the wireless network from the bridge device t the connected device; forwarding all broadcast packets detected on the wireless network from the bridge device to the connected device; forwarding unicast packets on the wireless network having as destination the address of the connected device to that device (page 5, lines 6-20).

Regarding claims 7-9, Bender discloses the method where the connection between the device and the bridge device is an Ethernet connection, and wherein the step of detecting the connection comprises monitoring packets on the Ethernet connection for detecting a previously unknown source address of and Ethernet device (page 6, lines 8-14).

Regarding claims 10-13, Bender discloses the step of maintaining a single management information base for both the bridge device and the connected device (see Fig. 3a; the transceiver 44 comprises a standard Ethernet communication card; the transceiver 46 typically comprises a wireless link communication module; **the processor 48 interfaces with transceivers 44 and 46 as well as a memory unit 50**).

Regarding claims 14 and 16, Bender discloses bridge device (42) comprising means for communication on a wireless network (56) and for connection of a first device (40) not having wireless communication capability (Ethernet connection) to a wireless network comprising an access point (58, 60), the bridge device comprising:

means for determining an address (*when power initially applied to the terminal equipment unit 40 and the wireless modem 42, each of them has a* ***unique hardware address****...message (that specifies the terminal equipment units permanent hardware address) is broadcasted to the network remote server 60*) of the first device and of the bridge device (page 9, lines 28-31; page 11, lines 3-5; page 10, lines 19-23);

means for carrying out two separate device registrations on the wireless network, one for the bridge device, and one for the first device, using respective addresses (page 9, lines 7-12; page 10, lines 19-23; page 11, lines 3-7).

Bender discloses, as pointed out above, when a terminal equipment unit is first powered on, it broadcasts a message intended for the network remote server 60. The broadcast message specifies the terminal equipment unit's permanent hardware address to request and IP address. Furthermore, it is well known that a MAC address is a hardware address that uniquely identifies

each node of a network. Bender does not expressly disclose that the hardware address is a MAC address.

Joy teaches that MAC address (Ethernet address) is unique address used on a network in order to ensure that a given packet will arrive at the correct destination (0005).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to substitute a MAC address, such as that suggested by Joy, to the hardware address of Bender in order to ensure that a given packet will arrive at the correct destination, thereby provides a secure system.

Further, Bender does not expressly disclose wherein the registration is performed through an authentication and an association process of the type as defined by the IEEE 802.11 standard.

However, Bender discloses, on page 13, lines 19-20, that the wireless link connection may operate under one of a plurality of well known or later developed operating protocols. Further, Bender discloses that a standard IP suit system connecting the wireless modem 42 and a network unit 58 over a wireless link 56. The IP suit may be used to internetwork a diverse range of LANs and WANs (page 6, line 27-page 7 line 5).

APA discloses that it is well known for wireless network to use the IEEE 802.11 specification to allow stations on the wireless network to exchange data.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use IEEE 802.11 standard in the system of Bender in order to use a set of standard for wireless LAN to exchange data.

Response to Arguments

3. Applicant's arguments filed 09/19/08 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues (Remarks, pages 7-8) that "*neither Bender, the APA nor Joy disclose or suggest at least a bridge device that separately registers the device and itself to the access point as wireless devices on the wireless network with their respective MAC address.*" Examiner respectfully disagrees. Bender clearly discloses a wireless modem (bridge device) is used to connect a wire-line broadcast medium terminal equipment unit, such as an **Ethernet unit**, to a network unit (access point) over a **wireless link (as wireless devices)**. Both the terminal equipment unit 40 (non-wireless) and the wireless modem 42 use their **unique hardware address** to request separate IP address (column 10, lines 10-18) over **wireless link** connection (*registering in the wireless network system implies registering the wired and wireless terminals as wireless devices*).

Applicant argues, "*Furthermore, neither Bender, the APA nor Joy teach or suggest at least that the registration is performed through an authentication and an association process of the type as defined by the IEEE 802.11 standards.*" It is respectfully submitted that the rejection is based on the combined teaching of the Bender patent and APA, and that the APA teaches that it is well known for local wireless network to use IEEE 802.11 specification to allow stations on the wireless network to exchange data.

Examiner also notes that similar augments were presented on page 9. The examiner takes the same position.

In the remarks, on page 10, Applicant argues that *"the APA fails to disclose or suggest a bridge device separately registering to and access point with respective MAC addresses..."* It

respectfully submitted that the rejection is based the combined teaching of Bender reference, the Joy reference and the APA, and that the Bender and Joy references, as pointed out above do teach this feature.

Further, Applicant argues that "*Joy is completely silent with respect to any registration process of devices to and access point, much less with a bridge device for separately registering to and access point a devise and itself as wireless devices in wireless network using their respective MAC address...*" It respectfully submitted that the rejection is based the combined teaching of Bender reference, the Joy reference and the APA. Bender clearly disclose that both the terminal equipment unit 40 and the wireless modem 42 use their **unique hardware address** to request separate IP address (column 10, lines 10-18) . Further, Bender discloses that the terminal equipment unit 40 and the wireless modem 42 are stations on the Ethernet subnet (column 4, lines 12-25). Also it is well known in the art that a MAC address is a hardware address that uniquely identifies each node of a network such as disclosed by Joy. Therefore, Examiner believes that the claims, given their broad reasonable interpretation, read on the reference applied.

Conclusion

4. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to SABA TSEGAYE whose telephone number is (571)272-3091. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5:00), First Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wing Chan can be reached on (571) 272-7493. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Saba Tsegaye
Examiner
Art Unit 2419

/S. T./
Examiner, Art Unit 2419

/Wing F. Chan/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2419
12/24/08